

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Tuesday, August 17. 1708.

I Cannot help taking this Occasion to observe the Activity, the Sincerity, the hearty Forwardness of our Ally the Duke of *Savoy*, nor can any of the other Potentates, with whom we are concern'd in this War, take it ill from me or any one else, that shall say, the Duke of *Savoy* performs his Part the best of any Confederate united in this War.

If I were to Panegyrick on his Personal Conduct, I should tell the World, what Hazards he has run, what Distresses he has been reduc'd to, what Expence he has been at, and what tempting and advantageous Offers he has rejected for this Confederacy. He has been indeed handsomely assist'd and heartily supported, especially by the *English* and *Dutch*, and the Battle of *Turin* effectually

deliver'd him, clear'd *Italy* of the *French*, and put him in a Posture to return the *French* Compliment at the Gates of *Toulon*.

And now he stands upon his own Feet, and is, as we may say, setting up for himself; what he gets is his own, and if he can recover *Savoy* from the *French*, it will not be long before *Dauphiné* may help to pay him the Damages; nor are the *French* a little concern'd at this enterprizing Prince pushing at them, at a Time when they are hard enough bested on every side, and therefore you will find them draw Forces from the *Upper Rhine* to reinforce Monsieur *Villars*, and put him in a Condition to make Head against the Duke of *Savoy*.

And this leads me from that Part of the World, where we are in Hopes of something

thing considerable, to the Seat of the War on the *Upper Rhine*; and here really we have a melancholly Prospect, a Brave and Enterprizing, truly Glorious Prince, with Forces enough, could they be drawn together—But all the Hopes of what might have been done on that side, for Want of the Life and Sinews of the War, the *Money*, lost and vanishing—Unaccountable Empire! A Constitution that seems calculated for its own Destruction, that had it been left to its self in this War, had been overthrown by its own unweildy Members: How often has the rest of the Confederacy sav'd it from Destruction?—*Hochstet* and *Turin* were the Deliverers of the Empire, and now her mighty Enemy is as it were broken, and so embarrassed, that he lies in a Manner naked and open on the side of the Empire, and yet this old Eagle is so weak, he cannot spread his Wings, he cannot seize the Prey, that is as it were laid gasping in his View.

Were the Consequences of this only to the Empire, I believe, we would be long ere we pity'd them; could they sink alone, they ought to sink unregarded; but every Branch is hurt by this Miscarriage, every Part of the Confederacy is wounded by it; and 'tis the greatest Piece of Service to the *French* that could ever be done them, especially at such a Juncture as this, when they have the terriblest Force to struggle with, that ever was upon their Hand in *Flanders*—The Elector of *Hannover's* Army lie still in their Lines, say the News Papers, and cannot march, or enter upon Action, and the Campaign or Summer Season half over; and what's the Matter? Nothing but—Nothing but all, nothing wanting

but *Money*, that is the Soul of every thing else, this is wanting; and so says another Paper, the *French* are under no Apprehensions on that side; and what is the Consequence of all this? Why 3000 Horse are sent away through *Burgundy* to join the *Marschal Villars*, to put a Stop to the Progress of the Brave Duke of *Savoy*, and more Detachments may perhaps follow, either to *Savoy* or the *Netherlands*; and thus the *French* employ those Hands in another Place, which would otherwise have been kept upon the *Rhine* to defend *Alsace* from the *Germans*.

And if the *French* are by this made strong enough to face us in Numbers we did not expect, if the Superiority of the Duke of *Savoy* be changed into an Equality, and the *French* enabled to give Cheque to his Enterprizes, and prevent his Irruption into *Dauphiné*, who have we to thank but the *Supine Germans*, whose Negligence and Contempt of *Europe's* Dangers have all along been the Safety, as it was originally the Rise of the *French* Greatness.

If the Glorious Prospect of this Campaign be defeated any where. it all lies at this Door; the Elector of *Hannover* might by this time else have ravag'd *Alsace*, and been at the Gates of *Strasburg*, and the *French* who are not able to look him in the Face there neither, would have been run down on all sides——But Woe to the Divisions of *Europe*! Self and Private Interest creeps into all Parties, and whole Nations feel the Mischief——The whole Weight of this War lies on the Shoulders of *England* and *Holland*, and it is the Strength of these two Nations that must carry it thorough.

MISCELLANEA

I Entred in my two last upon the Case of the Dissenting Clergy in *Scotland*, and I shall endeavour gradually to state their Case so fairly, as that they themselves shall not be able to object; nor have Reason to say they are wrong'd; Upon the *QUEEN's* Letter to *Scotland*, as I noted, they took

more Liberties than before, and began more openly to preach, set up Meeting-Houses, and officiate some one way, some another, both in *Edinburgh* and in several Parts of the Kingdom, and about 17 of these they had in the City and Suburbs of *Edinburgh*.

This

This Liberty they continued to take without any considerable Interruption, till the News of the French being preparing to invade Scotland, the Government found such mighty Encouragement was given to Jacobine Principles and Parties, by the conniving at these Meetings, that they thought fit to summon the Preachers before the Magistrates, in order to enquire, if they would take the Oaths to the Government, or pray for the QUEEN.

I shall not be forward to enumerate the other Irregularities, for which the People of Scotland have some Reasons to be more disturb'd at these Gentlemen than ordinary, because no Crime affects a Body of People, but what they own as a Body; but to set this in a true Light, I shall first give you the Libel or Bill prefer'd against these Gentlemen, and in Prosecution of which, this late imprisoning of them is occasion'd; and I dare presume to say, that bare relating this Matter of Fact will be the best Remark, and lead the World into the best Understanding of the Matter.

The Libel or Indictment is as follows.

Unto the Right Honourable the Lord Provost and Bailiffs of Edinburgh, humbly means and complains your Servitor, Mr. Samuel Gray, Picr. Fiscal to the good Town Wepon, Mr. Andrew Cant, Mr. George Grahame, Mr. George Purves, Mr. Robert Cheyne, Mr. Robert Skeene, Mr. William Ambercombie, Mr. George Barclay, Mr. William Eyfe, Mr. David Freebairne, Mr. Alexander Gultbie, Mr. George Hendrie, Mr. Adam Peacock, Mr. David Rankin, Mr. William Smart, Mr. John Winzers, Mr. James Walker, Mr. Robert Moncreiff,

Ministers and Preachers within the good Town of Edinburgh, Privileges and Liberties of the same; That whereby the Law of GOD, and the Laws of this and all other Well-govern'd Nations, Publick Prayers ought to be made for Prince, Sovereigns, and all Rulers in Authority, like as by the 16th Act of the Convention of Estates in the Year 1689, All Ministers are required publick-

ly to pray for the King and Queen then Reigning as King and Queen of Scotland. Like as by the Act of Parliament 1693, and several subsequent Acts of the same Nature, for taking the Oath of Allegiance and Assurance, It's Statute that all Preachers and Ministers of the Gospel whatsoever shall take the Oath of Allegiance, and subscribe the same with the Assurance in Manner, and in the Terms prescrib'd by the said Acts, certifying such who shall own and exercise their Ministry, without taking the said Oath, and Assurance in Manner aforesaid; The Ministers, they shall be depriv'd of their Benefices or Stipends; and Preachers, not provided to Kirks, shall be punish'd by Banishment, or otherways as the Council shall think fit. In the Pursuance of the which Acts, the Lords of her Majesty's Privy Council considering the certain Ministers, Preachers, and others manifestly disaffected to her Majesty's Governments, do countenance to keep up Meeting-Houles, where the Preachers pray not for her Majesty QUEEN ANNE, as they ought to do, but rather on the contrary, have neither sworn the Oath of Allegiance to her Majesty, nor subscribed the same with the Assurance; which not only countenances a Party and Faction disaffected to her Majesty's Royal Government, but more when an Invasion is threatned from the Enemies, is a great Encouragement to these Enemies, and a great Weakning to the Hands of all her Majesty's good Subjects; have therefore recommended to the Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh, forthwith to cause prosecute all Ministers, who within the said Priviledges of the Burgh do preach or exercise any Part of the Ministerial Function, without qualifying themselves to her Majesty, by swearing the Oath of Allegiance, and subscribing the same with the Assurance, conform to the Law, or who do not pray for her Majesty QUEEN ANNE Nominatim. Nevertheless it is of Verity, that the above-named Sects, shaking off all Fear of GOD, and REGARD to her Majesty's Authority and Cause,

" Cause, or to the Publick Peace and Se-
 " curity of the Country, have upon one or
 " other of the Days of *January, February,*
 " *March,* and remnant Months of the
 " Years 1706 and 1707, and one or other
 " of the Days of the Months, *January,*
 " *Feb.* or *March,* of this Current Year 1708,
 " presum'd to preach publicly in their
 " respective Places, without having qualify-
 " ed themselves to her Majesty, by taking
 " the Oath of Allegiance, and subscribing
 " the same with the Assurance as the Law
 " requires. Like as also they pray not for
 " her Majesty Queen *ANNE,* according to
 " their Duty, whereby they manifestly dis-
 " cover their Disaffection to her Majesty's
 " Governments, and does what in them
 " lies by such Practices, and not regard-
 " ing or observing Publick Fasts and
 " Thanksgivings, to keep up a wicked
 " Faction to her Majesty's Governments,
 " and the Peace and Security of the King-
 " dom, to the Encouragement of all the
 " Enemies thereof. Which Things with
 " their not qualifying, and not praying,
 " and not observing Publick Fast and
 " Thanksgivings, as above being notair,
 " proving themselves, they have thereby
 " incurred the aforesaid Pains of Law, and
 " therefore ought and should be sentenc'd
 " by Decret and Sentence of the Lords,
 " Magistrates of *Edinburgh,* to have in-
 " curred the aforesaid Pains. And that
 " therefore they ought to desist from
 " preaching or keeping Meeting-Houses,
 " within the said Bounds of the said Burgh,
 " Cause to desist and obtemper, other-
 " ways they ought by Sentence aforesaid to
 " be imprison'd, untill they give due Obe-
 " dience. And also their Meeting-Houses
 " to be shut up, without Prejudice of the
 " further Pains of Law, they may have
 " incur'd to the Example of Others to
 " commit the like in Time coming. And
 " your Honour's Answer, &c.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lately Publish'd

A New Description of the World, de-
 lineating *Europe, Asia, Africa,* and
America; with a Map and Tables of the
 Empires, Kingdoms, Provinces, and Cities
 therein, together with a Chronological and
 Historical Account of the Emperors, Kings-
 Princes, Governments, Religion, Langua-
 ges, Customs, Commodities, Revolutions.
 and Rareties thereof. By *H. Curson, Gent.*
 Sold by *John Morpbew,* near Stationers-Hall.



BARTLETT's Inventions for the
 Cure of Ruptures, which have gain'd
 So Universal Esteem, are now, yet farther
 Improv'd to so great a Nicet, that one
 of his Steel Spring Trusses of the largest
 Size, seldom Exceeds 4 ounces in Weight,
 and one of the smallest rarely Exceeds a
 quarter of an Ounce, and are so well a-
 dapted to the shapes of human Bodies,
 that they are extraordinary easy even to
 Infants of a Day Old, and Intirely keep
 up the Ruptures of what Bigness soever.
 Also divers Instruments to help the Weak
 and Crooked. By *P. Bartlet* at the Golden
 Ball by the Ship Tavern in Prescot Street
 in Goodmans Fields, London.

NOTE, He forges and finishes his
 Trusses himself, by which means he daily
 Improves his Inventions.